

House Drives for Vote On Death Penalty for Wartime Sabotage

Action Also Sought Today On Measure Involving Farm Product Ceilings

By the Associated Press.

Driving to clear the decks for a week or more of debate on taxes starting tomorrow, the House tangled today with such widely diversified measures as one dealing with wartime sabotage and another affecting ceiling prices on farm products.

More than two hours of debate yesterday waited to bring a decision on the War Security Act to make death the penalty for certain hostile acts against the United States in time of war.

Chairman Sumners of the Judiciary Committee which came up with the legislation at the request of the Justice Department said he was hopeful of passage today, but "because of the general feeling of suspicion that evidenced itself yesterday, we may not get through with it."

Debate centers on intent. Most of yesterday's debate centered around an amendment to provide that before penalties could be invoked, it must be proved that the offense was committed with willful intent to aid an enemy nation.

As written, the legislation provides that intent to aid the enemy shall be the governing factor in prosecutions, leaving out any reference to willfulness.

Without the amendment, some members feared the legislation could be used to prosecute persons who criticize the administration, or who unwittingly do an act that eventually results in comfort to the enemy.

Representative Fish, Republican of New York said "hysterical judges" might use it to circumvent constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech and press.

Newspaper Exemption Amendment. One pending amendment specifically would exempt newspapers of general circulation from provisions of a section defining as a hostile act the acquisition, compilation or transmission of data calculated to inform the enemy with respect to the war effort of the United Nations.

The farm legislation slated for a vote today prohibits the deduction of Government benefit payments from parity prices in determining ceilings for farm products under the 1942 Price Control Act.

Backed by the farm bloc and similar to legislation already approved by the Senate, the bill grew out of House Banking Committee contentions that crop payments do not enter into the element of price actually received for agricultural products and should not be considered in fixing price ceilings. Present practice is to consider benefit payments as part of agricultural income.

Capt. Cornelia Williams To Assign Woman Marines

Capt. Cornelia Williams, classification officer of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve, heads a new setup for assigning women Marines to proper jobs after completion of their indoctrination course, the Navy Department announced today.

Capt. Williams, who received her B. A. and Ph. D. degrees in psychology at the University of Minnesota and directed student personnel work there, has established a job classification system for women Marines parallel to that used for the men.

She will direct the classification from headquarters here. Aptitude tests will be given at the Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School in Northampton, Mass., and at the Naval Training School in the Bronx, N. Y.

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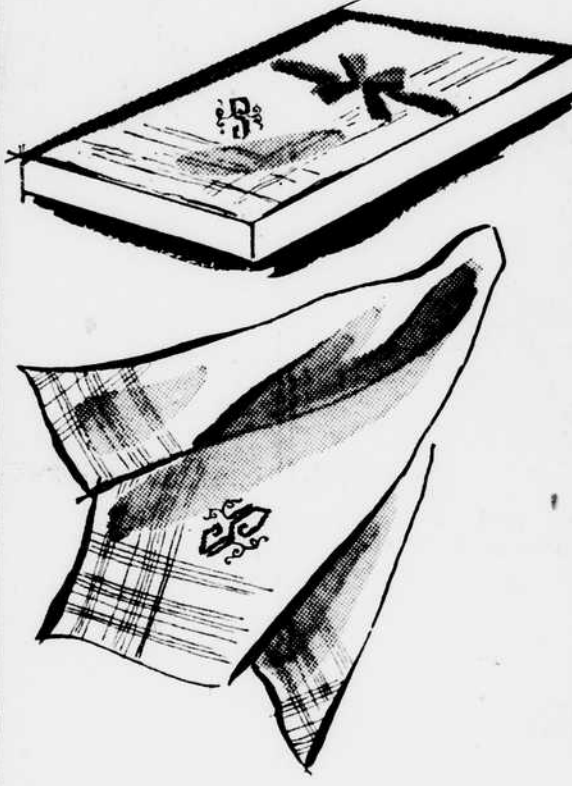


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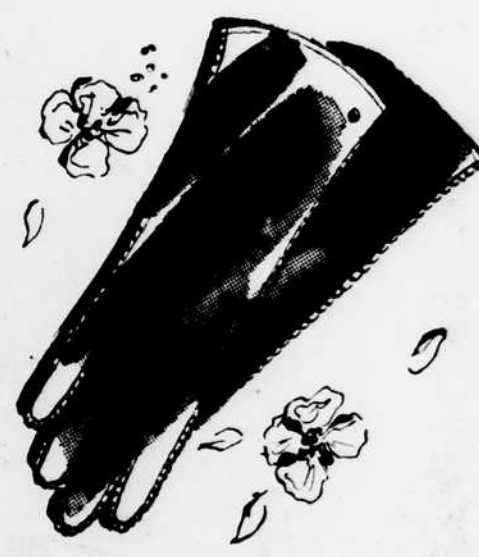


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BY VAN RAALTE

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